the corresponding remarks in Applicant's Response to Office action, which applicant mailed on March 20, 2001.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 18, 23, 97, 101, and 108 as follows and add new claims 110-112. The Version with Markings to Show Changes Made is found at pages 6-8 after Applicant's Remarks.

1. (Amended) A method of delivering a medicant to an abnormal brain region in a mammalian subject, comprising:

administering to a mammalian subject having an abnormal brain region a potassium channel agonist of a calcium-activated or ATP-sensitive potassium channel, said potassium channel agonist being other than bradykinin or a bradykinin analog, under conditions and in an amount sufficient to increase the permeability to the medicant of a capillary or arteriole delivering blood to cells of the abnormal brain region; and

administering to the subject simultaneously or substantially simultaneously with the potassium channel agonist the medicant, so that the medicant is delivered selectively to the cells of the abnormal brain region compared to normal brain regions.

6. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the medicant is a therapeutic cytotoxic agent, protein, antimicrobial agent, interferon, cytokine, cytokine agonist, cytokine antagonist, immunotoxin, immunosuppressant, boron compound, monoclonal antibody, adrenergic agent, anticonvulsant, ischemia-protective agent, anti-trauma agent, or diagnostic agent.

18. (Amended) A method of selectively delivering a medicant to an abnormal brain region in a mammalian subject, comprising:

administering to a mammalian subject having an abnormal brain region a potassium channel agonist of a calcium-activated or ATP-sensitive potassium channel, said potassium channel agonist being other than bradykinin or a bradykinin analog, under conditions and in an amount sufficient to increase potassium flux through a calcium-activated or ATP-sensitive potassium channel in an endothelial cell membrane of a capillary or arteriole delivering blood to cells of the abnormal brain region, whereby the capillary or arteriole is made more permeable to the medicant; and

administering to the subject simultaneously or substantially simultaneously with the potassium channel agonist the medicant, so that the medicant is delivered selectively to the cells of the abnormal brain region compared to normal brain regions.

22 ~~23~~. (Amended) The method of Claim 17 ~~18~~, wherein the medicant is a therapeutic cytotoxic agent, protein, antimicrobial agent, interferon, cytokine, cytokine agonist, cytokine antagonist, immunotoxin, immunosuppressant, boron compound, monoclonal antibody, adrenergic agent, anticonvulsant, ischemia-protective agent, anti-trauma agent, [anticancer chemotherapeutic agent,]or diagnostic agent.

97. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a combination of a potassium channel agonist of a calcium-activated or ATP-sensitive potassium channel, said potassium channel agonist being other than bradykinin or a bradykinin analog, formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable solution together with a medicant for delivery by intravascular infusion or injection into a mammal.

37 ~~101~~.(Twice Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 33 ~~97~~, wherein the medicant is a therapeutic cytotoxic agent, protein, antimicrobial agent, interferon, cytokine, cytokine agonist, cytokine antagonist, immunotoxin, immunosuppressant, boron compound, monoclonal antibody, adrenergic agent, anticonvulsant, ischemia-protective agent, anti-trauma agent, or diagnostic agent.

Sub E15 108. (Twice Amended) A kit for enhancing the delivery of a medicant to an abnormal brain region, comprising:

a potassium channel agonist of a calcium-activated or ATP-sensitive potassium channel, said potassium channel agonist being other than bradykinin or a bradykinin analog; and

instructions for using the potassium channel agonist for enhancing the delivery of a medicant to an abnormal brain region by increasing the permeability of a capillary or arteriole delivering blood to cells of the abnormal brain region.

Please add new Claims 110-112.

--110. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the medicant ~~is a DNA~~ expression vector, viral vector, oligonucleotide, or nucleotide ~~analog~~.

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111. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the medicant is a DNA expression vector, viral vector, oligonucleotide, or nucleotide analog.

112. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 97, wherein the medicant is a DNA expression vector, viral vector, oligonucleotide, or nucleotide analog.--.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to refer to Applicant's remarks concerning the pending Office Action (mailed December 20, 2000) in Applicant's Response to Office Action, which Applicant mailed on March 20, 2001. Applicant also respectfully requests the Examiner to note and consider Applicant's Statement of the Substance of the Interview filed herewith.